

APPENDIX F. OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL-HIGH-POTENTIAL SEGMENTS

NO	SEGMENT NAME	LENGTH (miles)	COUNTY/STATE	QUAD 1:100,000	DESCRIPTION	NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS	OWNERSHIP	THREATS TO RESOURCES/VISITOR SERVICES
1	St. Marys-Red Vermillion Crossing	16	Shawnee, Pottawatomie, KS	Topeka, Manhattan	The trail goes along the foot of the Kansas River Bluffs. The Kansas River flood plain was swampy, forcing the emigrants to follow a path along the edge of the bluffs. At the Vermillion crossing, where Louis Vieux operated a toll bridge, is the Cholera Cemetery. In 1847 or 1848 Louis Vieux, a mixed-blood Pottawatomie Indian, established a toll bridge at the crossing site of the Red Vermillion River. Vieux charged a \$1.00 fee to cross the bridge and also sold hay and grain to the emigrants. Because of plentiful water, grass, and wood, the east bank of the Red Vermillion River was a favorite camping spot. In 1849, an epidemic of Asiatic cholera struck a large wagon train camped at the river and left 50 dead within a week. Survivors carefully buried the victims and marked each grave with a slab of limestone, upon which the name and date of burial was carved.	Vermillion Creek Crossing is listed.	Private	There is a modern bridge across the river, which intrudes on the historic scene. The county owns the cemetery. One burial stone survives and is protected by a fence. The fence is intrusive, yet it protects the site from vandalism. The cemetery and crossing site need interpretation.
2	Ft. Laramie to Warm Springs	15	Goshen, Platte, WY	Torrington	The trail remains virtually intact and continuous, except when crossed by pipelines and county roads, from the climb out of the Laramie River valley to Mexican Hill. Huge swales are visible in places; the junction of various branches is clearly visible where Bluff and River routes join east of Mexican Hill.	Not listed	Private	National Guard activities near Guernsey.
3	Prospect Hill	3	Natrona, WY	Casper	From Willow Springs to the low ridge of Prospect Hill emigrants climbed 400 feet to gain their first sight of the Sweetwater Mountains to the west. The view of the gentle valley gave the travelers hope for better water and an easier road ahead.	Determined eligible	Public(BLM)/ private	Mineral development in the area threatens historic viewsheds and access. BLM interpretive panel.
4	South Pass	140	Natrona, Carbon, Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, WY	Bairoil, Rattlesnake Hills, Lander, South Pass, Farson	This is one of the most impressive segments of the trail in terms of the quality of the resources and the visual experience. It starts where Highway 220 crosses Horse Creek; runs southwest along the Sweetwater River, through Devil's Gate and over Rocky Ridge; nears Dickie Springs Creek and Twin Mounds; and crosses the Wind River Range and the Continental Divide at South Pass. From there, it heads west towards Pacific Springs, passes Parting of the Ways, and ends at Little Sandy Crossing.	South Pass is a National Historic Landmark	Public(BLM)/ private	Mineral exploration at the western end of the segment, in the Lewiston and Dickie Springs areas, has been a low-level threat to the trail and its viewshed for many years. If large-scale development is proposed, the threat would increase greatly.

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5	Big Sandy to Green River	50	Sweetwater, WY	Farson, Rock Springs	This segment follows unimproved roads and ends at Green River. The site of Big Sandy Pony Express station is in Farson. Continuing along this same road, a metal post marks the spot of the Big Timber Pony Express station. The segment ends 10 miles southeast of the Big Timber station at the confluence of the Big Sandy and Green Rivers. The Green River Pony Express station is assumed to have been located one mile northwest of the Big Sandy.	Not listed	Public(BLM)/ private	Access to the Big Sandy Pony Express station is possible from Highway 28 at a state historical marker. The site can be reached either by hiking or driving. Dry Sandy creek bed crosses BLM lands, but the Pony Express station site is on private land. The rest of this segment is mostly on public land; however, access is not continuous along the trail by automobile. Travelers may park their vehicles and hike along certain portions of the trail (interpretation needs).
6	Bear River Divide	31	Uinta, Lincoln, WY	Kemmerer	Located between U.S. highway 189 and Wyoming Highway 89, this 31-mile segment crosses the rugged Bear River Divide.	Not listed	Public (BLM)/ private	None known
7	Hagerman Fossil Beds	4	Gooding, ID	Twin Falls	West of Upper Salmon Falls; this area includes probable grazing or camp sites near Yahoo Gulch. The segment climbs a ridge adjacent to the Snake River, which features a narrow spot, referred to as the Devil's Backbone in Jesse Applegate's journal. On flatter parts of the ridge, two parallel ruts are visible. The steep portion near the top of the ridge has three separate rut segments. Artifacts from trail segments are in the museum collection at the park.	Not listed	Public (NPS)	Natural erosion. A wheel-chair accessible trail to the overlook at the top of the bluff, with wayside exhibits, is available.
8	North Trail	83	Elmore, Ada, ID	Glenns Ferry, Mountain Home, Murphy, Boise	It extends from the Twin Falls-Elmore County line to the outskirts of Boise and features excellent ruts through scenic rangelands and foothills.	Not listed	Public (BLM)/ private	None known
9	Sinker Creek	18	Owyee, ID	Murphy	Located on the South Alternate Route, this segment includes many miles of almost pristine ruts, extending from Castle Butte to four miles northwest of Murphy.	Not listed	Public (BLM)/ private	None known
10	Alkali Springs	13	Malheur, OR	Brogan	This segment starts about six miles north of Vale and continues to Willow Camp Spring. Emigrants often stopped at midday at Alkali Springs, which provided the only poor water in the 22-mile crossing from the Malheur River to Birch Creek.	Not listed	Public (BLM)/ private	Adequate road signage and public access.
11	Ladd Canyon	2	Union, OR	Enterprise, La Grande	Impressive wagon ruts remain where the trail crossed Ladd Hill to the Grande Ronde Valley.	Not listed	Private	Preservation of resources on private land.
12	Blue Mountain	17	Union, Umatilla, OR	La Grande	This segment, stretching from La Grande to Mount Emily, includes many miles of ruts through the picturesque and heavily forested Blue Mountains.	Not listed	Public (FS)/ private	Preservation of resources on private land.
13	Emigrant Hill	6	Umatilla, OR	Pendleton	This segment includes the long descent from Deadman Pass to the Umatilla River Valley. In spite of the visual intrusion of the pipeline and the powerlines, this segment provides an excellent feeling for the landscape.	Not listed	Private / public	Regular maintenance of signs and trail markers; leasing land for grazing has impaired and continues to threaten trail resources.

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14	Boardman	12	Morrow, OR	Hermiston	This segment stretches from the eastern boundary of the Boardman Bombing Range to Immigrant Road and includes traces of the Oregon Trail. This appealing landscape of rough sagebrush-covered desert is much as it must have been during the emigrant years.	Not listed	Public / private	Regular sign maintenance; military use restricts access to the trail.
15	Barlow Road	32	Wasco, Hood River, Clackamas, OR	Mount Hood	The segment begins at Barlow Gate, swings south around Mount Hood, and ends at the West Barlow Tollgate. Ruts remain along most of the distance, and the scenic qualities are exceptional.	Barlow Road Historic District	Public (FS)/ private	Regular sign maintenance.